Rep. Peter Welch released the following statement Thursday regarding the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform, established today by President Obama:

"With our nation burdened by unprecedented debt, it is long past time that Washington gets its fiscal house in order. All Vermont families know that keeping to a budget is a basic responsibility, and this commission—as well as pay-as-you-go legislation I sponsored—is an important early step in restoring fiscal sanity. I commend President Obama for establishing this important commission and working to reduce the debts and deficits we face."